

REMARKS

1. Reconsideration and further prosecution of the above-identified application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and discussion that follows. Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11-14 and 17-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,620,110 to Cooney. Claims 6 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Cooney. After a careful review of the claims (as amended), it has been concluded that the rejections are in error and the rejections are, therefore, traversed.

2. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11-15 and 17-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,620,110 to Cooney. In response, independent claims 1, 11 and 19 have been further limited to a voltage converting power supply that supplies power from an alternating current power source to the audio signal processor while the voltage converting power supply is disposed within the enclosure and power from the alternating current power source to the signal processor when the voltage converting power supply is not disposed within the enclosure. Support for the additional limitation may be found at numerous locations within the specification (e.g., paragraph [0002], paragraph [0027-28], paragraph [0036], etc.).

In contrast, the Cooney power module 20 must be removed from the recess 16 in order to supply power from an alternating current power source to the radio 10 by

plugging into an electrical outlet. In this case, the Cooney power module 20 is provided with a set of electrical contacts 30 that cannot be plugged into an electrical outlet unless the module 20 is removed from the radio 10. In the one case, (FIGs. 3-6), the Cooney electrical contacts 30 is disposed into the rear of the recess 16, thereby preventing use of the module 20 for supplying power when the module 20 is inserted into the recess 16. In another case, (FIGs. 7-8), the contacts 30 are disposed on the side, thereby also preventing use of the module 20.

In another case, Cooney provides a button 40 that disconnects the module 20 when the module 20 is inserted into the recess 16. As described by Cooney, when the button 40 is activated by insertion of the module 20, power is supplied to the radio 10 from batteries 68.

In addition, a removable voltage converting power supply for use with audio signal processors (as under the claimed invention) has utility that would not be needed or appreciated in the case of a radio. For example, a power supply integrated into a wall plug (as under Cooney) would take up too much room on a power strip (specification, paragraph [0036]). In contrast, the claimed invention uses a separate plug 56.

In addition, the ability to locate a removable voltage converting power supply inside an enclosure of the audio signal processor saves space in crowded audio signal processing racks. The ability to locate the removable power supply anywhere between the base station 14 and wall outlet avoids interference when many base stations 14 are used in close proximity (specification, paragraph [0037]).

In the Office Action of 5/19/04 (page 5), the Examiner

asserts with regard to Cooney that "The reference teaches that the power supply provides power when inside the radio via batteries or outside the radio via the electrical plug, which reads on the limitation". However, as now amended, the claims require that the voltage converting power supply provide power from an alternating current power source when the voltage converting power supply is disposed within the enclosure and power from the alternating current power supply when the voltage converting power supply is not disposed within the enclosure. Since Cooney relies upon batteries when the module 20 is inside the recess, Cooney no longer meets the explicit limitations of the claims.

Since Cooney does not meet the explicit limitations of the claims or offer the same functionality, the claimed invention is clearly differentiated over Cooney. Since the claims are now clearly differentiated over Cooney, any rejection based upon Cooney would now be improper and should be withdrawn.

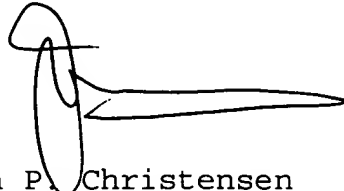
4. Claims 6 and 16 have been rejected as being obvious over Cooney. However, as amended, Cooney fails to teach or suggest a removable power supply that supplies power both when the power supply is disposed within and not disposed within the enclosure. Since Cooney fails to teach or suggest this particular claim element, the rejection is believed to be improper and should be withdrawn.

5. Allowance of claims 1-22, as now presented, is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the

subject application, he is respectfully requested to
telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
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